

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-15, and 16-19 are pending in the application. Claim 17 is the only pending elected claim and is currently amended. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-14, 16, 18 and 19 were withdrawn by the Examiner pursuant to a restriction requirement. By this response, claims 2, 12, and 15 are canceled without prejudice and/or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. The Applicant reserve the right to file one or more divisional application(s) directed to the non-elected subject matter in accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 121.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 17 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the foregoing amendment, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection and allowance of claim 17.

III. Conclusion

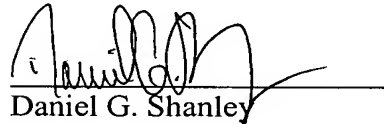
In light of the above discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4420 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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